

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.*

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Acts 2:14. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd with a loud voice: "The whole House of Israel can be certain that God has made this Jesus whom you crucified both Lord and Christ."

Hearing this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the apostles, "What must we do, brothers?" "You must repent," Peter answered, "and every one of you must be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise that was made is for you and your children, and for all those who are far away, for all those whom the Lord our God will call to himself." He spoke to them for a long time using many arguments, and he urged them, "Save yourselves from this perverse generation." They were convinced by his arguments, and they accepted what he said and were baptised. That very day about three thousand were added to their number.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 22

RESPONSE: *The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

Or **Alleluia!**

1. The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me,
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path;
he is true to his name.
If I should walk in the valley of darkness
no evil would I fear.
You are there with your crook and your staff;
with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever. **R.**

SECOND READING 1 Peter 2:20-25

A reading from the first letter of St Peter.

The merit, in the sight of God, is in bearing punishment patiently when you are punished after doing your duty.

This, in fact, is what you were called to do, because Christ

suffered for you and left an example for you to follow the way he took. He had not done anything wrong, and there had been no perjury in his mouth. He was insulted and did not retaliate with insults; when he was tortured he made no threats but he put his trust in the righteous judge. He was bearing our faults in his own body on the cross, so that we might die to our faults and live for holiness; through his wounds you have been healed. You had gone astray like sheep but now you have come back to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
*I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!*

GOSPEL John 10:1-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said: "I tell you most solemnly, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold through the gate, but gets in some other way is a thief and a brigand. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the flock; the gatekeeper lets him in, the sheep hear his voice, one by one he calls his own sheep and leads them out. When he has brought out his flock, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow because they know his voice. They never follow a stranger but run away from him: they do not recognise the voice of strangers."

Jesus told them this parable but they failed to understand what he meant by telling it to them.

So Jesus spoke to them again:

"I tell you most solemnly,
I am the gate of the sheepfold.
All others who have come
are thieves and brigands;
but the sheep took no notice of them.
I am the gate.

Anyone who enters through me will be safe:
he will go freely in and out
and be sure of finding pasture.
The thief comes
only to steal and kill and destroy.
I have come
so that they may have life
and have it to the full."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

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Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Awaiting new appointment.

Please contact either Fr Paul, Fr Luke or one of the other Ipswich priests if you or a family member are going in to hospital.

Please consider setting up a standing order in favour of the parish instead of a weekly cash offering. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please complete a form which you can find in the church porch.

Bank: Barclays **Account Name:** St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Parish **Account number:** 70777323 **Sort code:** 20-44-51



Fourth Sunday of Easter 30th April 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A, Weekday Readings Year I

Sunday Hymns: Entrance: Gather Us In Offertory: The Servant King see separate word sheet

Communion: 376 Now the Green Blade Riseth Recession: 195 Hail Redeemer, King Divine!

Services During the Coming Week

Saturday 29th 5:30 pm Confessions

April 6:00 pm Vigil Mass, Fourth Sunday of Easter offered for the people of the parish. Reader I Suttle, offertory R Hennon

Sunday 30th 8:00 am Holy Mass, offered for Albertina Vieira RIP. Reader J Cleary, Eucharistic Minister C Moore

April 10:00 am Holy Mass offered for Rosario Tablante. Reader A James, offertory Pakes family, Eucharistic Minister M Long

Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass today prepared and served by Nigel & Dorothy

Monday 1st May
Easter Feria
No Mass Today

Tuesday 2nd May
St Athanasius
No Mass Today

Wednesday 3rd May
Saints Philip and James, Apostles
No Mass Today

Thursday 4th May
The English Martyrs
No Mass Today

Friday 5th May
Easter Feria
No Mass Today

Saturday 6th May 5:30 pm Confessions

6:00 pm Vigil Mass, Fifth Sunday of Easter offered for the people of the parish.

Today's Gospel: This fourth Sunday of the Easter season is sometimes called Good Shepherd Sunday because in each of the three lectionary cycles, the Gospel reading invites us to reflect on Jesus as the Good Shepherd. In each cycle the reading is from the tenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter sets the framework for Jesus' teaching about himself as the Good Shepherd. Today's reading falls between the stories of Jesus' healing of the man born blind and the raising of Lazarus. Both of these stories were proclaimed in the Gospels found in this year's season of Lent. Following the controversy that ensued when Jesus healed the man born blind, Jesus directs his allegory about the sheep and the shepherd toward the Jewish religious leaders of his time, the Pharisees. Throughout John's Gospel the Pharisees fail to accept Jesus' ministry and teaching. They show themselves to be "robbers and thieves" because they try to lead the sheep without entering through the gate, Jesus. Through these metaphors, Jesus is telling his listeners that those who follow him and his way will find abundant life. He identifies himself both as the shepherd and the gate. The shepherds who are faithful to him are the ones whom the sheep (Jesus' disciples) should follow. The relationship between the sheep and their shepherd is based on familiarity. Sheep recognise their shepherd and will not follow a stranger. At the end of the day, shepherds lead their sheep from pastures to a common gated area called a sheepfold. There, one shepherd protects all of the sheep until the next day when each shepherd returns to lead his own sheep to pasture. As shepherds move among the sheep, the sheep follow only their shepherd. Today's Gospel also gives us the opportunity to reflect on Christian leadership. Jesus' words suggest to us that those who will lead the Christian community will be known by their faithfulness to Jesus. The leaders will recognise that Jesus is the gate for all of the sheep and that having a good relationship with Jesus is the primary characteristic of a Christian leader. Jesus' allegory also suggests that faithful Christian leadership requires a good relationship with the community: the shepherd knows his sheep, and they know him. Christian leaders follow the example of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, by being faithful to him and by being a good shepherd. *Courtesy of Loyola Press*

World Day of Prayer for Vocations: Today is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, the purpose of which is to publicly fulfil the Lord's instructions to "Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest". We are all asked to pray especially for vocations to the priesthood and religious life, and, to help support those that have already responded to the Lord's calling, there will be a second collection taken at each Mass for the Diocesan Priest's Training Fund.

Fr Paul writes: "I would like to say a big thank you to everybody for their prayers, wishes and cards over Easter and their generosity with the Easter offering. It is very much appreciated. I am now off home for two weeks to Vietnam to rest and have a holiday and will be back in Ipswich on 13th May to say the Masses at St Marks that weekend. Next weekend, Fr Russell Frost has kindly agreed to cover the weekend Masses here at St Mary Magdalen church."

150 Club: There are a number of subscriptions for the 150 Club that have not as yet been paid. The first draw of the new year was due to have been made today, but will be delayed to allow more time for any late payments to be received. If you have not yet submitted your payment, please do so as soon as possible. Any new subscribers will be very welcome to join the Club to help offset a number of members who have left during the past few months. Membership application forms are available in the porch, or you can use the new online application form on the parish web site.

Catholic East Anglia: The May edition of Catholic East Anglia, the free Diocesan newspaper, is now available in the porch – please do take a copy home with you and take additional copies to distribute to friends and any others who do not attend Mass. It is also available to read on-line on the parish web site.

Parish Registration: There is a new parish registration form which can be found in the church porch and also on the parish web site. All parishioners are asked to complete and return a form to ensure that the parish records are up to date. Please return completed forms to Fr Paul.

Parish Key-Holders: For insurance purposes we need to have a list of key holders for parish property, and we want to update our records to make sure that we have all the information correctly recorded. Again, there are forms in the church porch, and on the parish web site, and we would request that anybody that holds any key for any parish property completes one of these forms to record their details and details of each of the keys held.

The Sick of the Parish: We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted, housebound or distressed. Comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit: John Anderson-Hurst, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Sheila Curry, Jo Fox, Fabiana Di Mascio, Patrick Doran, Josephine Kalagira, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, David Nash, Pauline Newton, Mary O'Reilly, Carol Sims and Pippa Williamson.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Cezarina Meyer (1980), Doris Carvey (1998), Mary Dodson (1983), Charles "Freddy" Ashard (1985), Marion Hyland (1992), George Rymell (1992), Salvatore Falcucci (2014), Margaret McInerney (2019), Catherine M Head (2008) Sybil Turnbull (2019), Patrick McManus (1986), Manual Giner and Ronald Blake (2005) whose anniversaries occur about this time. A complete list of parish anniversaries can be found on the parish web site at <https://marymagdalens.org/events-diary/anniversaries>.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace